Ner. How like you the young Germaine, the Duke of Saxonies nephew?

Por. Very vildly in the morning when hee is ſober, and moſt videly in the afternoone when he is drunke: when he is beſt, he is a little worſe then a man, and when he is worſt he is little better then a beaſt, and the worſt fall that ever fell, I hope I ſhall make ſhift to goe without him.

Ner. If he ſhould offer to chooſe, and chooſe the right Casket, you ſhould refuſe to performe your Fathers will, if you ſhould refuſe to accept him.

Por. Therefore for feare of the worſt, I pray thee ſet a deepe glaſſe of Reyniſh wine on the contrary Casket, for if the Devill be within, and that temptation without, I know he will chooſe it. I will doe any thing *Nerriſſa* ere I will be married to a ſpunge.

Ner. You needs not feare Lady the having any of theſe Lords, they have acquainted me with their determinations, which is indeed to returne to their home, and to trouble you vvith no more ſute, unleſſe you may be wonne by ſome other ſort then your Fathers impoſition, depending on the Caskets.

Por. If I live to be old as *Sibilla*, I will die as chaſte as *Diana*, unleſſe I be obtained by the manner of my Fathers will: I am glad this parcell of woers are ſo reaſonable, for there is not one among them but I doat on his very abſence: and I pray God grant them a faire departure.

Ner. Doe you not remember Lady, in your Fathers time, a Venetian, a Scholler and a Souldier that came hither in company of the Marqueſſe of *Mountferrat?*

Por. Yes, yes, it was *Baſſanio*, as I thinke ſo was he call'd.

Ner. True Madam, he of all the men that ever my fooliſh eies look'd upon, vvas the beſt deſerving a faire Ladie.

Por. I remember him wel, & I remember him worthy of thy praiſe. How now, what newes?

Enter a Servingman.

Ser. The foure ſtrangers ſeeke for you Madam, to take their leave: and there is a fore-runner come from a fift, the Prince of *Moroco*, who brings word the Prince his Maſter will be here to night.

Por. If I could bid the fift welcome with ſo good heart as I can

can bid the other foure farewell, I ſhould be glad of
if he have the condition of a Saint, and the complexi
I had rather he ſhould ſhrive me then wive me. Co
ſirra goe before: whiles we ſhut the gate upon one
ther knocks at the doore.

Enter Baſſanio with Shilocke the Iew.

Shy. Three thouſand Ducates, well.

Baſ. I ſir, for three months.

Shy. For three months, well.

Baſ. For the which as I told you, *Anthonio* ſha

Shy. *Anthonio* ſhall be come bound, vvell.

Baſ. May you ſted me? Will you pleaſure me?
Shall I know your anſwer?

Shy. Three thouſand Ducats for three months,
and *Anthonio* bound.

Baſ. Your anſwer to that. *Shy.* *Anthonio* is a

Baſ. Have you heard any imputation to the cont

Shy. Ho no, no, no, no: my meaning in ſaying
man, is to have you underſtand mee that hee is ſuff
meanes are in ſuppoſition: he hath an Argoſie boun
another to the *Indies*, I underſtand moreover upon t
hath a third at *Mexico*, a fourth for *England*, and
he hath ſquandred abroad, but Ships are but boardes
men, there be land Rats, and water Rats, water
land Theeves, I meane Pyrats, and then there is the
ters, vvindes, and Rockes: the man is notwithſta
ent; three thouſand Ducats, I thinke I may take his b

Baſ. Be aſſur'd you may.

Iew. I will be aſſur'd I may: and that I may be a
bethinke me, may I ſpeake with *Anthonio?*

Baſ. If it pleaſe you to dine with us.

Iew. Yes, to ſmell Porke, to eate of the habitatio
Prophet the Nazarit conjured the devil into: I will
ſell with you, talke with you, walke with you, and
but I will not eate with you, drinke with you, nor p
What newes on the *Rialto*, who is he comes heere

Baſ. This is ſignior *Anthonio.* Enter

Iew. How like a fawning publican he lookes.